[English]

Gold Deposits in Purulia, West Bengal

3859. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge reserve of gold has been discovered in Purulia district of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government for its exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects in Bihar Affected by Inter-State Disputes

3860. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects of Bihar affected due to inter-State water disputes; and

(b) the irrigation and hydro-power generation potential of those projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Clearance of none of the irrigation projects of Bihar is affected due to inter-state water disputes. However, in respect of two projects namely Kanhar, reservoir and Kadwan reservoir, the State Government is required to obtain concurrence from Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for submergence of areas in their territories respectively. Also, Zamania Pump Canal Scheme requires concurrence of Government of Uttar Pradesh in fixing location of Pump house and alignment of feeder canal. In respect of Tilaiya Dhadhar and Konar Irrigation Schemes, resolution of the issue of extra land acquisition in Maithon and Panchet reservoirs of Damodar Valley Corporation for creating additional storage capacity is the pre-requisite.

(b) The irrigation and power potential envisaged in these projects is Kanhar 56430 ha., Tilaiya Dhadhar 35460 ha., Konar irrigation 62830 ha., Zamania Pump Canal 30060 ha., and Kadwan Reservoir (6×75) 450 MW apart from stabilising irrigation under existing sone cammand.

[English]

Indians in Iraqi Jails

3861. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indians in Iraqi Jails; and

(b) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for their early release?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) While the Iraqi authorities, when approached, have maintained that at present there are no Indian nationals in Iraqi jails, a recent report contains a reference to 13 Indian nationals under detention in Iraq. This is being verified, as well as taken up with the Iraqi authorities.

S.T.D. Facility in Arunachal Pradesh

3862. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to expand the communication facilities in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the places where S.T.D. facility has been extended till date;

(d) whether there is any proposal to extend S.T.D. facility in some more areas in the State during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Plan proposals for this year 1991-92 provide for local switching capacity addition of 2500 lines, 1000